

A

REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Saturday, September 25. 1708.

IN my last I gave you a Letter of a Gentleman, whose Honesty really merits to be recorded to Posterity; and as the Printer of this Paper assures the World he has sufficient Proof of the Fact, I think it cannot be useless to repeat it here.

SIR,

AS the corrupt Age we live in affords so few Instances of real Honour and Justice, as that which a Gentleman hath lately given an evident

Proof of ; who casually meeting with a Letter drops in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, on Wednesday the 30th of June last, wherein was a Goldsmith's Note for 300 l. Sterling, payable on Demand, and the Letter Directed to a Person, altogether a Stranger to the Gentleman, viz. To R.... A.... Esq; in Bell-Yard, from the Lord P....ly The Gentleman instead of yielding to any Temptation of the Adventure, as others, perhaps, would have done, fairly carries both the Letter and Note, according

according to the Direction of the Letter, and finding Mr. A....y was not at home, he leaves both for him, with one Mr. V....n of the Six Clerks Office, who being an honest Man, and Mr. A....y's Acquaintance, bids deliver'd them to him accordingly. And as it would be both ungrateful and unjust to bury an Action of so much probity in Oblivion; without giving it all the solemn praise it deserves, as well for the Edification of others, as in Justice to the Gentleman; I doubt not but for the Honour of our Nation, you'll let the World hear of it in your publick REVIEW. The Gentleman is one Mr. P....
...t, Native of Ireland, a Roman Catholick and a Jacobite, and was not ashamed to leave that Character of himself, when he left the Letter and Note; desiring no other Consideration, than, that if Mr. A....y should think fit one of his own Generosity and good Will, to make a little Present to some unfortunate Gentlemen, Countrymen to the said Gentleman, now Prisoners in Newgate, as an Acknowledgement to Providence, that the said Letter and Note did not fall into worse Hands, he would account it as favour.

S. I. R.

July 9.

1708. I am Yours,

R. A.

I cannot think, any Man will be displeased with my giving this Action its just Praise, for the Author's being a Papist or an Irish-man. 1. I am not of that Opinion, that no Man has any Honesty but our selves; a Principle of Honour will

show it self, let the Nation or the Profession be what it will; and I am ready to acknowledge, that in Matters of punctual Dealing, Honesty of Trade, and the like; even the Turks are a Shame to some Ch i-fians, that in their abundant Credit walk the Exchange. 2. An honourable Action commands the Praise of Every honest Man, and will be acknowledg'd; let the Country, the Profession, or the Person be what it will. — And at last I never knew or heard of any Thing peculiar to Ireland, that should pass for a Reason with me, why an Irish Man may not be an honest Man.

O but he is a Papist — Well, and what then? It appears, he is a very honest Papist, and GOD forbid, I should say that cannot be; As to moral Honesty, you may take Pattern, Gentlemen, from Abundance of Papists; and to him that thinks otherwise — I would say, Art thou a Protestant? And what do you more than others?

O but he is a Jacobite — Still, I am where I was — No Man a greater Enemy to the Principles of Jacobitism than I. But I never said, a Jacobite could not be an honest Man; a profess'd openly declar'd Jacobite is to me a very honest Man; he tells fairly, tells you what he expects, and what you are to expect from him — And he deserves much better Usage, and some Charity; 'tis the swearing, abjuring, complying Jacobite that is the Villain, a new amphibious Monster, that none of the Philosophical Transactions could ever describe, nor Dissection it self give a true Notion of.

Now here is an Irish Man, a Papist, and a Jacobite, has done such an Action, as few Examples can be found to tell of in this Age, and I am desir'd to let you know it. Really Gentlemen, to see a Protestant and an English Man do such a Thing, would be next to a Miracle as Times go — and therefore I publish it with a great Deal of Pleasure; 1. As a Debt due to the Action it self, which all good Men will acknowledge and respect the Gentleman for; and, 2. To let the People that call themselves honest Men in this Age, see what they ought to imitate; for doubtless every honest Man ought punctually and faithfully to discharge every Debt or

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Obligation to his Neighbour, and to restore to him his own by whatsoever way or means he can ; as for those who are unhappy, and cannot — it is their Business, to preserve a chaste Principle and firm Resolution, to be punctual, honest to all Men, when G O D shall enable them ; for this Maxim will for ever be true, He may be an honest Man that cannot pay his Debts, but he must be a Knave that can and will not —

As to the Proposal in the Letter to the Gentleman, whose lost Bill was restor'd, viz. To contribute something by Way of Acknowledgment to the Irish Gentleman in Prison, I am free to say, I believe, the Gentleman was under some Obligation of Honour to do it — Nor is it any Affront to the Government to relieve the Necessities of its greatest Enemies, for as Men, common Humanity dictates us to pity and relieve their Wants ; nay, even as Enemies we have the Command, if thine Enemy hunger, feed him — And I can not but tell you a short Story here, and the Gentleman is living now and flourishing in this City, that is meant in it ; and if Need be, will I doubt not own it.

An English Paquet-Boat being taken going to Holland the last War ; after an obstinate Fight, this Gentleman having behav'd himself very forward in the Action, was carry'd very much wounded into Dunkirk ; here he lay in the Hospital under Care, and in great Distress — Some charitable Person in the Town hearing of the Condition he was in, sends to him a Sum of Money amounting to near ten Pound in Sterling, and never, no not to this Day, let him know who it came from, tho' he is now in Circumstances to make a very honourable Return to it, and perhaps willing to do it.

This Example should tell us, that Charity distinguishes not Enemies, or Friends, Nations, Principles, People, or Opinion, but the Distresses and Wants of the Object, and without doubt a distress'd Enemy is as

much an Object of Charity, as a Friend — Upon this Foundation, I should never think my self obnoxious, as either encouraging Invaders, or corresponding with Enemies, in relieving the Persons he names, tho' it were only Charity — And 'tis on this Foot that I frankly encourag'd the contributing to the Distresses of the Episcopal Clergy in Scotland, and when I was there, contributed to them my self — Which I had not mention'd, had not the Rebeusal scandalously reproach'd me, with acknowledging I had abused them, and gave them a Guinea in Token of Recantation — Which is a Forgery born like himself, of the Father of Lies, the DEVIL — I do neither love, nor us'd to return any such Language — But that Author gives himself such a Latitude to publish things upon me without Colour or Prêtence ; that it will bear no other term than just what it is, viz. a Falsity — And the Gentlemen who Collect the Charity, are ready to testify for me, that his Suggestion is scandalous, and I have the true Matter of Fact under one of their Hands to show — I frankly offer'd my Mite to their Collection, in Testimony that I am no Enemy to Charity, nor to a Charity for the Deposed Clergy in Scotland ; I am content to have them always Dispossess'd, tho' always to relieve ; but I shall have an Occasion hereafter to state more fully the Affairs of that Collection, with the reasonable Objections against it — And Defences of it.

The present Case is the Instance of Honesty before us, which I cannot but say, deserves our Admiration ; and I take this Opportunity to recommend it to the Age for Imitation. I have no Knowledge of the Person, but let him be what he will, the Action is commendable ; and tho' I cannot admit of what we call Merit, in any thing we can do, yet such Integrity of Principle, as it is given from Heaven, so it is got without its Reward.

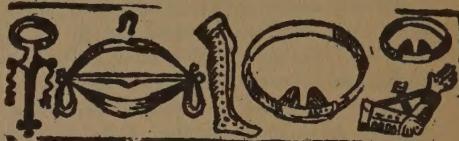
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NOTE, He forges and finishes his Trusses himself, by which means he daily Improves his Inventions.

GI Thomas Pritchard, at the Saracens-Head in Little Carter Lane, near St. Paul's, London, having a Son who had a very bad Rupture, and applying to Mr. Bartlett, at the Golden Ball in Prescot-street in Goodman's-Fields, London. He perform'd the Cure in four Days to my great Surprise, and my Son has remain'd well ever since.

This is to give Notice, that I Richard Baker, of Lawrence-Folneys Lane, Cannon-street, London, having had a Rupture for about fifty Years; at last I apply'd my self to the late Mr. Christopher Bartlett, at the Golden Ball by the Tavern in Prescot-street in Goodman's-Fields; who, by his ingenious Invention of Spring-Trusses and Rupture Spirits, with the Blessing of GOD, made a perfect Cure in about eight Months, and I have been perfectly well ever since, which is about four or five Years.

NOTE, His Son P. Bartlett lives at the same Place as above-mention'd, and carries on the same Busines, as his Father did; having been by him thoroughly Instructed therein.

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